entire spectrum of education. Increasingly there is a stress on decentralization and devolution given the range and diversity of educational institutions across the country. However, national level institutions such as National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) provide information and benchmark against which States can calibrate their achievement over time.

Grant to Sanskriti School, Delhi

1961. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to issue a grant of Rs. 3.50 crores for Sanskriti School, Delhi;

(b) if so, the motives behind this decision of grant to a private school;

(c) the grants given to the private schools during the last two years; and

(d) the policy and rules adopted for providing financial grants to the private schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to information made available by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training, Government has approved financial assistance of Rs. 9.00 crores to Sanskriti School, Delhi, which is established primarily to cater to children of officers of All India and Central Services. The Financial assistance is for following purposes:

(i) Repayment of bank loan	Rs. 3.00 crore
(ii) Completion of construction of Auditorium etc.	Rs. 3.00 crore
(iii) Construction of Annexe Block	Rs. 3.00 crore

Out of this, an amount of Rs. 5.5 crore has already been released.

(c) and (d) Grant-in-aid to schools is essentially a State Government function. Under certain Centrally Sponsored Schemes, grants are released to State Government/NGOs for the benefit of schools/students. No capital

grant for construction of school buildigns or maintenance grant for day-to-day running of the school has been released by Ministry of Human Resource Development to any private school in the last 2 years.

USER in lieu of NIS

†1962. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started setting up Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (USER) in place of National Institute of Science (NIS);

(b) whether a stone has been laid by Prime Minister for establishment of such an institute in Kolkata; and

(c) whether any Parliamentary delegation or Cabinet Minister representing Orissa has been assured by the Prime Minister for setting up this kind of establishment in Bhubaneshwar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Government have set up two Indian Institute of Science Education and Resarch (USER) one each at Kolkata and Pune but these are not in place of National Institute of Science (NIS).

(b) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister laid foundation stone of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) at Kolkata on 11th July, 2006.

(c) There is no record in the Prime Minister's Office regarding Prime Minister's assurance to any Parliamentary delegation, or Cabinet Minister representing Orissa regarding setting up this kind of establishment in Bhubaneshwar.

Opening of NT, Bombay campus at Ahmedabad

1963. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NT, Bombay plans a campus in Ahmedabad;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.